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operation mode is different from the predetermined standard value, corrects said stored correction curve such that said correction value replaces the predetermined standard value.

18. The touch control method according to claim 17, further comprising:

displaying the strength of the keying power when said touch data is generated.

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19. (Amended) The touch control method according to claim 18, wherein said correcting said stored correction values comprises:

calculating an average touch data by averaging said touch data generated in said touch data generating step; and

when said correction value corresponding to said touch data is different from the average touch data calculated in said average touch data calculating step, corrects said stored correction curve such that said correction value is replaced by said average touch data.

20. The touch control method according to claim 19, further comprising:

displaying the strength of the keying power when touch curve is generated.

REMARKS

Claims 2-4, 6-10, 12-14 and 16-20 remain in the present application, of which claims 2, 6, 12 and 16 are now independent. Claims 1, 5, 11 and 15 have been canceled. Further, claims 2-4, 6, 7, 9, 16, 17 and 19 have been amended to make minor clerical corrections not related to patentability without further limiting their scope. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claims 2-4, 6-10, 12-14 and 16-20.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,308,917 ("Kitamura et al."). Regarding claims 1, 5, 11 and 15, the examiner states that Kitamura teaches a touch responsive setting apparatus including a keyboard (10) generating touch data (p), and a curve memory (40) storing curve data values with their corresponding velocity values. The Examiner also states that Kitamura et al. teaches generation of touch curves with respect to various degrees of the strength of depressions. Then the Examiner cites col. 3, lines 1-12, col. 5, lines 51-56, FIG.2 and FIGs. 8-10 to support the above statements. Since claims 1, 5, 11 and 15 have been canceled herein, applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of these claims is now moot.

Additionally, regarding claims 2, 6, 12 and 16, the Examiner states that Kitamura et al. teaches a switch (11) including a touch curve setting section (11a) having various switches, SW such as a mode switch, and cites col. 3, lines 60-68 and col. 4, lines 1-5 of Kitamura et al. to support the rejection. Applicants respectfully submit that the above referenced disclosure of Kitamura et al. does not disclose the claimed invention, and respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection of claims 2, 6, 12 and 16.

As described in the sections cited by the Examiner to support the rejection of claims 1-2, 5-6, 11-12 and 15-16, Kitamura et al. discloses that a touch curve is set while in a touch curve setting mode by sequentially depressing a piano setting switch p-SW, a mezzo forte setting switch mf-SW, a forte setting switch f-SW and a set switch SET-SW as shown in the flow chart of FIG. 5. (col. 3, line 60 to col. 4 line 4). As the Examiner indicates, Kitamura et al. further teaches an interpolator (30) which interpolates the input touch data and form a response curve representing touch-tone level character. (Col. 3, lines 4-6).

As such, Kitamura et al. does not disclose "a correction coefficient generator which generates a correction coefficient composed of a ratio of one of said velocity values corresponding to

one of said touch data generated by said keyboard device under said predetermined operation mode to a maximum value of said velocity values" as recited in claim 2. Since Kitamura et al. does not disclose this element of claim 2, claim 2 is not anticipated by Kitamura et al. Therefore, applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 2 be withdrawn and that it be allowed.

Since claims 3 and 4 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 2, they incorporate all the terms and limitations of claim 2 in addition to other limitations, which together further patentably distinguish them over the cited references. Therefore, applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 3 and 4 be withdrawn and that they be allowed.

Kitamura et al. does not disclose "generating a correction coefficient composed of a ratio of one of said velocity values corresponding to one of said touch data generated in said touch curve generating step under said predetermined operation mode to a maximum value of said velocity values" as required by claim 12, therefore, claim 12 is not anticipated by Kitamura et al. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 12 be withdrawn and that it be allowed.

Since claims 13 and 14 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 12, they incorporate all the terms and limitations of claim 12 in addition to other limitations, which together further patentably distinguish them over the cited references. Therefore, applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 13 and 14 be withdrawn and that they be allowed.

As discussed above, the sections of Kitamura et al. cited by the Examiner to reject claims 2, 6, 12 and 16 disclose that a touch curve is set while in a touch curve setting mode by sequentially depressing a piano setting switch p-SW, a mezzo forte setting switch mf-SW, a forte setting switch f-SW and a set switch SET-SW. Further, the Examiner indicates that Kitamura teaches an interpolator (30) which interpolates the input touch data and form a response curve

representing touch-tone level character. As such, Kitamura et al. does not, in the sections cited by the Examiner, disclose that "when a correction value corresponding to said touch data generated by said keyboard device under said predetermined operation mode is different from a predetermined standard value, corrects said correction curve stored in said correction curve memory such that said correction value replaces the predetermined standard value" as required by claim 6. Since Kitamura et al. does not disclose this element of claim 6, claim 6 is not anticipated by Kitamura et al. Therefore, applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 6 be withdrawn and that it be allowed.

Since claims 7-10 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 6, they incorporate all the terms and limitations of claim 6 in addition to other limitations, which together further patentably distinguish them over the cited references. Therefore, applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 7-10 be withdrawn and that they be allowed.

Since Kitamura et al. does not disclose that "when a correction value corresponding to said touch data generated by said keyboard device under said predetermined operation mode is different from a predetermined standard value, corrects said stored correction curve such that said correction value replaces the predetermined standard value" as recited in claim 16, claim 16 is not anticipated by Kitamura et al. Therefore, applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 16 be withdrawn and that it be allowed.

Since claims 17-20 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 16, they incorporate all the terms and limitations of claim 16 in addition to other limitations, which together further patentably distinguish them over the cited references. Therefore, applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 17-20 be withdrawn and that they be allowed.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-20 be withdrawn,


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and that claims 2-4, 6-10, 12-14 and 16-20 be allowed. If there is any remaining issue that can be addressed over the telephone, the Examiner is invited to call applicants' attorney at the number listed below.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the above-identified application by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

2. (Amended) [~~The touch control apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:~~]

A touch control apparatus comprising:

a keyboard device which generates touch data indicative of strength of keying power;

a touch curve memory which stores a touch curve indicative of a correspondence relation of velocity and touch data;

a corrector which corrects velocity values of said touch curve stored in said touch curve memory based on said touch data generated by said keyboard device to generate a new touch curve; and

a mode switch which switches an operation mode of said touch control apparatus to a predetermined operation mode,

wherein said corrector [~~includes~~] comprises:

a correction coefficient generator which [~~generate~~] generates a correction coefficient composed of a ratio of one of said velocity values corresponding to one of said touch data generated by said keyboard device under said predetermined operation mode to a maximum value of said velocity values; and

a touch curve generator which [~~multiplies~~] multiplies said correction coefficient generated by said correction coefficient generator by said velocity values to generate the new touch curve.

3. (Amended) The touch control apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said correction coefficient generator [~~generate~~] generates said correction coefficient composed of the ratio of one of said velocity values corresponding to one of said touch data generated by said keyboard device pushed with a fortissimo strength of the keying power under said predetermined operation mode to a maximum value of said velocity values.

4. (Amended) The touch control apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising:

a display device which displays the strength of the keying power when ~~[the]~~ a key on said keyboard device is pushed.

6. (Amended) ~~[The touch control apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising:]~~

A touch control apparatus comprising:

a keyboard device which generates touch data indicative of strength of keying power;

a correction curve memory which stores a correction curve indicative of correction values to correct a keyboard curve indicative of a correspondence relation of velocity and touch data, said correction values corresponding to said touch data generated by said keyboard device;

a corrector which corrects the correction values stored in said correction curve memory based on said touch data generated by said keyboard device to generate a new correction curve; and

a mode switch which switches an operation mode of said touch control apparatus to a predetermined operation mode,

wherein said corrector, when ~~[said]~~ a correction ~~[values]~~ value corresponding to said touch data generated by said keyboard device under said predetermined operation mode is different from a predetermined standard value, corrects said correction curve stored in said correction curve memory such that said correction value ~~[is]~~ replaces the predetermined standard value.

7. (Amended) The touch control apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said corrector, when said correction ~~[values]~~ value corresponding to said touch data generated by said keyboard device pushed with a mezzo forte strength of the keying power under said predetermined operation mode is different from the predetermined standard value, corrects said correction curve stored in said

correction curve memory such that said correction value ~~[is]~~ replaces the predetermined standard value.

9. (Amended) The touch control apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said corrector includes:

an average calculator which calculates an average touch data by averaging said touch data generated by said keyboard device; and

a curve corrector which when said correction ~~[values]~~ value corresponding to said touch data generated by said keyboard device is different from the average touch data calculated by said average calculator, corrects said correction curve stored in said correction curve memory such that said correction value is replaced by said average touch data.

12. (Amended) ~~[The touch control method according to claim 11, further comprising:]~~

A touch control method comprising:

generating touch data indicative of strength of keying power;

storing a touch curve indicative of a correspondence relation of velocity and touch data;

correcting velocity values of said touch curve based on said generated touch data to generate a new touch curve; and

switching an operation mode to a predetermined operation mode,

wherein said correcting ~~[step includes]~~ velocity values comprises:

generating a correction coefficient composed of a ratio of one of said velocity values corresponding to one of said touch data generated in said touch curve generating step under said predetermined operation mode to a maximum value of said velocity values; and

multiplying said correction coefficient generated in said correction coefficient generating step by said velocity values to generate the new touch curve.

16. (Amended) [~~The touch control method according to claim 15, further comprising:~~]

A touch control method comprising:

generating touch data indicative of strength of keying power;

storing a correction curve indicative of correction values to correct a keyboard curve indicative of a correspondence relation of velocity and touch data, said correction values corresponding to said touch data generated in said touch data generating step;

correcting said stored correction values based on said generated touch data to generate a new correction curve; and

switching an operation mode to a predetermined operation mode,

wherein said correcting [~~step~~] said stored correction values, when [~~said~~] a correction value corresponding to said touch data generated under said predetermined operation mode is different from a predetermined standard value, corrects said stored correction curve such that said correction value [~~is~~] replaces the predetermined standard value.

17. (Amended) The touch control method according to claim 16, wherein said correcting [~~step~~] said stored correction values, when said [~~stored~~] correction [~~values~~] value corresponding to said touch data generated based on a mezzo forte strength of the keying power under said predetermined operation mode is different from the predetermined standard value, corrects said stored correction curve such that said correction value [~~is~~] replaces the predetermined standard value.

19. (Amended) The touch control method according to claim 18, wherein said correcting [~~step includes~~] said stored correction values comprises:

calculating an average touch data by averaging said touch data generated in said touch data generating step; and

when said correction [~~values~~] value corresponding to said touch data is different from the average touch data calculated in said average touch data calculating step, corrects said stored correction curve such that said correction value is replaced by said average touch data.

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